OIPE 123 2007

actitioner's Docket No. <u>U 015952-4</u>

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent application	
of Inventor(s)	
	,
for	
Title of inve	ntion
OR	
In re application of: Tomohiro YOTABUNN, et a	
Serial No.: 10/550,862 Group No.: 1	/42
Filed: August 14, 2006 Examiner: For: BRICK BODY FOR ROTARY NOZZLE	
FOI: BRICK BODT FOR ROTART NOZZZE	
Commissioner for Patents	
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	
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BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFI	CE ACTION (37 C.P.R. 1.57(0))
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Date: April 18, 2007	WILLIAM R. EVANS
	(type or print name of person certifying)

* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. 1.98(b): Each U.S. patent listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by (1) inventor, patent number, and issue date. Each U.S. patent application published listed in an information disclosure statement (2) shall be identified by applicant, patent application publication number, and publication Each U.S. application listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified (3) by the inventor, application number, and filing date. Each foreign patent or published foreign patent application listed in an information (4) disclosure statement must be identified by the country or patent office which issued the patent or published the application, an appropriate document number, and the publication date indicated on the patent or published application. Each publication listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by (5) publisher, author (si any), title, relevant pages of the publication,,date, and place of publication. No extension of time can be had under 37 C.F.R. § 1.36 (a) or (b) for filing an IDS. 37 **WARNING:** C.F.R. § 1.97(f).

NOTE: The "filing date of a national application" under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) has two possible meanings. Where the filing is a direct one to the United States Patent & Trademark office, the filing is defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) as "the date on which: (1) A specification containing a description pursuant to § 1.71 and at least one claim pursuant to § 1.75; and (2) any drawing required by § 1.81(a), are filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in the name of the actual inventor or inventors as required by § 1.41." 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(1). On the other hand, an international application that enters the national stage occurs when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.494 or § 1.495. 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) requires the filing of the following: (1) the national fee; (2) a copy of the international application, unless already sent by the International Bureau, and an English translation if filed in another language; (3) amendments under PCT Article 19, with a translation into English if made in another language; (4) an oath or declaration; and (5) a translation into English of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(2).

IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b).

NOTE: "No certification or fee is due when the filing is made within the above time period. It is advisable to ensure that no Office action has been mailed if the disclosure statement is delayed until after three months from filing."

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement will be considered to have been filed on the day it was received in the Office, or on an earlier date of a mailing if accompanied by a properly executed certificate of mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, or Express Mail certificate under 37 C.F.R. 1.10. An office action is mailed on the date indicated in the Office action." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "The term 'national application' includes continuing applications (continuations, divisions, continuations-in-part) so three-months will be measured from the actual filing date of an application as opposed [sic] to the effective date of a continuing application." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "An action on the merits means an action which treats the patentability of the claims in an application, as opposed to only formal or procedural requirements. An action on the merits would, for example, contain a rejection or indication of allowability of a claim or claims rather than just a restriction requirements (37 C.F.R. 1.142) or just a requirement for additional fees to have a claim considered (37 C.F.R. 1.16(d)). Thus, if an application was filed on Jan. 1 and the first Office action on the merits was not mailed until six months later on July 1, the examiner would be required to consider any proper information disclosure statement filed prior to July 1." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

WARNING: "A petition for suspension of action to allow applicant time to submit an information disclosure statement will be denied as failing to present good and sufficient reasons, since 37 C.F.R. 1.97 provides adequate recourse for the timely submission of prior art for consideration by the examiner." Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63). But see § 103(b) and (c), limited suspension of action in a continued prosecution application (CPA) filed under § 1.53(d) and in a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114.

If a fee is required, please charge deposit account 12-0425.

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SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

CLIFFORD J. MASS

(type or print name of practitioner)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Tomohiro YOTABUNN, et al

Serial No.:

10/550,862

Group No.:

1742

Filed:

August 14, 2006

Examiner:

For:

BRICK BODY FOR ROTARY NOZZLE

Attorney Docket No.:

U 015952-4

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

We draw the attention of the Examiner to the attached English-language version of a supplemental European Search Report from a foreign office in respect of counterpart EP, Application No. <u>04746835</u> that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office. The Action or Search Report makes consideration of any non-English art required. MPEP 609.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a) and 1.10*

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Cited references JP 03278797 and JP 61009964 were previously cited and copies provided in the IDS mailed on September 26, 2005.

Form PTO-1449 is also attached with reference copies (first page only for U.S. patent publications).

Respectfully submitted,

CLIFFORD J/MASS
LADAS & PARRY LLP

26 WEST 61ST STREET

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10023

REG. NO.30,086(212)708-1890

FORM PTO-1449 U. S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ATTY. DOCKET NO. SERIAL NO. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE U 015952-4 10/550,862 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE APPLICANT 18009 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Tomohiro Yotabunn, et al. APR 23 2007 (Use several sheets if necessary) FILING DATE **GROUP** August 14, 2006 1742 A TRADEMIS U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS **EXAMINER** REFERENCE DOCUMENT FILING DATE IF **INITIALS** DATE DESIGNATION NUMBER NAME **APPROPRIATE** 4,618,126 10/1986 Tinnes, et al. AA4,747,580 05/1988 Tinnes, et al. ABAC AD ΑE AF FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS **D0CUMENT TRANSLATION** NUMBER DATE COUNTRY YES NO 02/070173 09/2002 WO AG 01/41956 ΑH 06/2001 WO 04/1998 0 838 291 EP ΑI 09/1997 09 225 627 JP Х AJ 03 278 797 04/2002 JP Х ΑK AL 06 015 440 01/1994 Љ Х AM 61 009 964 01/1986 JP Х OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Dates, Etc.) Patent Abstracts of Japan 09225627 dated September 02, 1997 ΑN Patent Abstracts of Japan 06015440 dated January 25, 1994 ΑO AP **EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if

not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.